United Nations A/70/160/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2015

Original: English

Seventieth session
Item 103 of the provisional agenda*
Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum**

Contents

Page

III. Reply received from the European Union 2

* A/70/150.

** The information contained in the addendum was received after the deadline for the submission of the main report.

15-15636 (E) 300915

Please recycle

III. Reply received from the European Union

[Original: English]
[11 September 2015]

In response to the request, the European Union would like to submit the following, which is complementary to the reply given by the European Union with regard to General Assembly resolution 69/29:

Throughout the Southern Neighbourhood, including the Mediterranean region, the European Union and its member States are working on the reform of the security institutions supporting the establishment of more transparent, accountable and democratically controlled security sectors.

In particular, the European Union and its member States are involved in border management, monitoring, and advice and support missions in several countries, including the European Union Border Assistance Mission in Libya, the European Union Border Assistance Mission in Rafah and the European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories in Palestine.[1] These missions, initiated under the Common Security and Defence Policy, are conducted within the framework of the European Union's comprehensive action, in particular long-term programmes aimed at capacity-building and paving the way to institutional reforms.

In Tunisia, a peer review of the police was undertaken by European experts to serve as a basis for defining national strategic orientations. The European Union is also supporting the development of a national capability for security and stabilization in Lebanon. At the margins of the region, the European Union is involved in the Common Security and Defence Policy operations in Mali and the Central African Republic.

In addition, regional cooperation on security issues is progressing, especially with the League of Arab States (LAS). In the framework of relations with this organization, among other fields of activity, the European Union and its member States have financed the establishment of the LAS situation room in Cairo and continue to assist LAS in developing its own crisis response architecture and capabilities through a series of workshops, seminars and study visits, covering a plethora of topics, such as post-conflict or disaster needs assessments, diplomatic training and contacts with security and defence study institutes. More recently, the establishment of a strategic dialogue with LAS is another important step in the collaboration.

The European Union Counter-Terrorism Coordinator has well-established contacts with all countries of the region, working jointly on the legal aspect of counter-terrorism and foreign fighters. The security situation in the region remains closely linked to its political, social and economic development. Only a comprehensive approach and thorough reforms can restore long-term stability. The only method to achieve long-lasting results is through inclusive dialogue. The European Union and its member States are ready to assist the region in improving its capacity to deal with security threats. The European Union and its member States are willing and interested to work in this field, both through their bilateral contacts and cooperation with LAS. Such assistance, however, can only be provided upon the request of, and in accordance with, the will of each partner.

[1] This designation should not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of Member States on the issue.